

2/4/79

Harold-

I spoke to Jerry Ray last Thurs or so and he wants me to get in touch with John Auble at (KSD-TV) channel 5 here in St. Louis to give him "details" of an incident which happened in '72 or '73 here in St. Louis

The incident involved me and Jerry one evening when Jerry was in St. Louis staying with his sister. We had been drinking (heavily) all evening at my house in Black Jack. Late - I would stay 11:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. - we left my house to take Jerry back to his sister's house, at that time, in Maplewood, Mo.

We were a few miles from the sister's house when two males (ages 20-25) started picking a fight with us while we were heading south on McLand Rd. To avoid a confrontation - we turned right on a street I happen to pick because of proximity. It turned out that this particular street was a deadend. The car had followed us down the street. We stopped of course at the end of the street and the car pulled in behind us and made it impossible to back up.

The two guys got out of the car and came up to ours and beat the hell out of us. Jerry had to have 9 stitches across his forehead - still visible today - and received medical attention at St Mary's hospital several blocks ago. Neither one of us ever even were able to get out of the car. It happened so fast and caught us completely off guard & pretty drunk. My legs were in very sad shape from the guy slamming my door on them as I would try to get out. Jerry's injury was caused by a chain or like object.

Jerry says now that at that time he was missing some secret documents pertaining to King's murder and that now that he is aware of my F.B.I. work - he thinks I took them, or that the assailants took them and were in fact F.B.I. operatives.

John Auble wants to do an exclusive about the story with me "admitting" that the beating up, etc., was a cover for getting the documents. Jerry is trying to talk me into doing this almost every time we have talked since the news conference (Several times at most) BUT

1. If F.B.I. did do it - I didn't and still don't know.
2. I was beaten up also.
3. Jerry or me were never out of the car.
4. I don't have any idea as to why or who did it.

Question → Does Jerry really think it was a set up?
or Does Jerry want another example of government harassment - True or not.
or Does John Auble want to "BIG HEADLINE"

Ollie